Copying Objects

Natural provides a COPY command which allows you to copy a selected object in a number of ways:

1. Copy and store an object under a different name in the same object library, for example:

   ```
   COPY N NATLIB(PROG1),NATLIB(PROG2)
   ```

   copies Natural member PROG1 from library NATLIB to Natural member PROG2 in the same library.

2. Copy and store an object under the same or a different name in another library of the same object type, for example:

   ```
   COPY N NATLIB(PROG1),NEWLIB(PROG2)
   ```

   copies Natural member PROG1 from library NATLIB to Natural member PROG2 in the library NEWLIB.

3. Copy and store an object on another computer (if you have a multi-CPU environment), for example:

   ```
   COPY N NATLIB(PROG1),P PDSLIB(PROG2) NODE=155
   ```

   copies the Natural member PROG1 from the library NATLIB as the member PROG2 to the PDS library PDSLIB on Node 155.

4. Copy and store multiple members to another library, for example

   ```
   COPY P PDSLIB(ISP*),NEWLIB
   ```

   copies all PDS members in the library PDSLIB that start with ISP to the PDS library NEWLIB. The same functionality is also available for other object types (Natural objects, VSE/ESA members, LMS elements, etc.).

   Note:
   In Examples 1, 2 and 3, the copy operation is not performed if the member PROG2 already exists in the target library. In Example 4, for each member name starting with ISP and already occurring both in source and target libraries, the user will be prompted to decide whether or not the member is to be replaced.

5. Copy and store an object as another object type; if the target object already exists, it is overwritten, for example:

   ```
   COPY P PDSLIB(MYMEM),N NATLIB(PROG1),REP
   ```

   copies the PDS member MYMEM from the library PDSLIB to the Natural library NATLIB as the member PROG1. The same functionality is also available for other object types, for example copying a Natural member to a VSE/ESA member, or copying a BS2000/OSD LMS element to a Natural object.

When using function command syntax as in the above examples, you are prompted to select valid options in selection windows should you omit any required parameter, making the COPY command easy to use even without knowledge of the complete command syntax.

For example, the command

```
COPY PDS,NAT
```


prompts you first for the PDS member to be copied, then for the Natural object as destination.

If the new object name already exists in the target library, you can specify whether the existing member is to be retained or deleted (overwritten) by entering **Y** (overwrite) or **N** (retain) in the target specification window.

The COPY command can also be issued from the source object's Entry Panel, with object parameters entered in the input fields. Prompt windows then prompt you to specify the target object type and identifiers.

Under OS/390, if the target dataset of a COPY D <dataset name> command does not exist, you are prompted for a file allocation.

Note:
Not every object can be stored as any other object type. For example, a Natural program cannot be copied as a job SYSOUT file. Most object types can be source objects, but use as target is restricted to those objects that can be edited, except for module CSECTS, recovery files, menus, Natural error messages, BS2000/OSD job variables and PREDICT descriptions. The selection windows displayed while executing the COPY command list valid values only.

